Statement

Interest Rate Structure for Scheduled Commercial Banks

Items	Rate per Cent Per Annum
Bank Deposits	
Saving Bank deposits	4.5
Term Deposits	
(i) 30 days and upto 1 year	not exceeding 11.0
(ii) Above 1 year	Free
Bank Credit	
(i) Credit limits upto Rs. 25,000	12.0
(ii) Credit limits above Rs. 25,000 and upto Rs. 2 lakh	13.5
(iii) Credit limits above Rs. 2 lakh	Free*

Shifting of current affairs programmes to late hours

2963. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the Indian Express of August 2, 1996, it is proposed to shift the two daily current affairs programmes; namely "Aaj-Tak" in Hindi and the "News Tonight" in English telecast on DD-Metro at 9.30 p.m. and 10.00 p.m. respectively, to later hours in the night and to increase the telecasting rate by 100%.

(b) whether Government are aware of the popularity of these programmes amongst viewers, news-lovers and whether any survey has been conducted to assess their popularity, if so, with what results; and

(c) the reasons for shifting their telecasting time and enhancement in rate?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. according to the latest survey of Audience of Research Unit of Doordarshan the two programmes are not as popular as Doordarshan's own news bulletins "Samachar" and "The News" telecast on DD-I at 8.30 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. respectively.

(c) Revenue generation for Doordarshan.

Review of performance of commercial banks

2964. SMT. JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the performances of different commercial banks in the country;

(b) if so, bank-wise details thereof during the last three years, year-wise and

(c) the efforts made by Government to improve the performance of the banks so that they all earn profit?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The performance of public sector banks is reviewed annually by the Government of India and a consolidated report is placed before the Parliament.

(b) The details of profit/losses of public sector banks (bankwise) for the year ended 1994, 1995 and 1996 are given in the Statement *(see below)*

(c) Reserve Bank of India/Government have taken various steps to improve the overall functioning of the banks. These include, inter alia, discussions with the top executives of the banks for finalising performance commitments, strengthening of credit management system, toning up of internal control, etc. Banks reporting operating and net losses are precluded from incurring fresh capital expenditure, fresh recruitment, etc. and advised to reduce all operating expenses through rationalisation of their organisational structure. The introduction of prudential norms has brought in a greater sensitivity among the banks on the credit risks which is expected to improve their financial strength.

* For borrowers with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakh banks are free to determine the interest rate. Each bank is required to declare its Prime Lending Rate (PLR) which should have the approval of its Board and which should be the minimum rate applicable to this category of borrowers. The actual rate to a particular borrower is fixed by the banks taking into account the risk perception, track record of the borrowers and other relevant factors.